

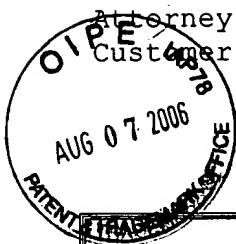
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Attorney No. HARD1.015A (129843-1022)  
Customer No. 60148

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
APPLICATION NO. 09/970,389

1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Anne Ziegler

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In re Application of: Donald J. Merkley et al.

Application No.: 09/970,389

Filing Date: October 2, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: Mark Halpern

For: Method and Apparatus for Reducing  
Impurities in Cellulose Fibers for  
Manufacture of Fiber Reinforced Cement  
Composite Materials

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL  
OFFICE ACTION MAILED JUNE 19, 2006**

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this Amendment and Response and respectfully requests entry of the amendment set forth herein and consideration of the remarks provided with this paper.

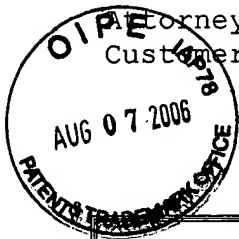
This Amendment is filed in reply to an Office Action made final and mailed June 19, 2006, that established a three-month shortened statutory time period to respond. Applicants submit that this response is timely filed.

In response to the Office Action, please reconsider the above-identified Application as provided in

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3;

**Remarks** begin on page 7; and

**Conclusion** begins on page 9 of this paper.



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Customer No. 60148

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
APPLICATION NO. 09/970,389

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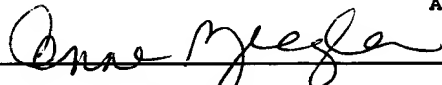
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Commissioner for Patents  
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TRANSMITTAL OF AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL  
OFFICE ACTION MAILED JUNE 19, 2006

Attorney No. HARD1.015A (129843-1022)  
Customer No. 60148

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
APPLICATION NO. 09/970,389

2

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are:

- a postcard acknowledgment of receipt of papers by the Patent Office;
- this Transmittal Sheet (3 pgs.);
- Amendment and Response After Final to Office Action Mailed June 19, 2006 (10 pgs.);

Please return the acknowledgment postcard.

						LARGE ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER  PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total Claims	24	Minus	67	0		\$50=	\$0
Independent Claims	2	Minus	6	0		\$200=	\$0
						TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	\$0

Attorney No. HARD1.015A (129843-1022)  
Customer No. 60148


AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
APPLICATION NO. 09/970,389

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No fees are believed to be due at this time. To the extent that any further fees, whatsoever, are required at any time during prosecution of this application, including petition and extension fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees, including any under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 07-0153 of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP (Dallas) and reference Attorney Docket No. 129843.1022. Please credit any overpayments to this same Deposit Account.

**Please direct all correspondence to the practitioner listed below at Customer No. 60148.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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ATTORNEY/AGENT FOR APPLICANT  
August 7, 2006